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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shunpei Yamazaki et al

Art Unit : 2825

Serial No. : 09/894,950

Examiner : Caridad Everhart

Filed : June 27, 2001

Confirmation No.: 6263

Title : SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AFTER RCE

Prior to examination after a request for continued examination, please amend the application as indicated on the following pages.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

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